1 Richard D. Ross Honorable Benjamin H. Settle 2 BETTS, PATTERSON & MINES, P.S. One Convention Place, Suite 1400 3 701 Pike Street Seattle, Washington 98101-3927 4 (206) 292-9988 5 Attorneys for Defendant 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA 10 11 RAYMOND T. BALVAGE and DEBORAH 12 A. BALVAGE, husband and wife; et. al., NO. 3:09-cv-05409-BHS 13 Plaintiffs. **DECLARATION OF JEFF CUMMINS** 14 IN SUPPORT OF RISA'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION 15 VS. 16 RYDERWOOD IMPROVEMENT AND 17 SERVICE ASSOCIATION, INC., a Washington non-profit corporation, 18 Defendant. 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 DECLARATION OF JEFF CUMMINS IN SUPPORT OF RISA'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION -1-Betts 630743.3/072313 2240/61840140 Patterson

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DECLARATION OF JEFF CUMMINS IN SUPPORT OF RISA'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

I, Jeff Cummins, am competent to testify to the matters set forth herein and make this declaration of my own personal knowledge and belief.

- 1. I am the owner of Community Waste & Recycling, the company that collects garbage for the City of Ryderwood, Washington. In that role I have come to know many of the residents in Ryderwood, including a number of residents who are Plaintiffs in the ongoing litigation with RISA.
- 2. Since 1996, I have had a contract with RISA that requires me to collect garbage from all residences in Ryderwood. RISA pays me a set fee to collect garbage from each residence in Ryderwood.
- 3. Sometime in 2008 I was contacted by Ryderwood residents Charles Weaver and Bob White on behalf of a group of people who had resigned from RISA. Mr. Weaver and Mr. White, on behalf of the group, asked me to continue to collect garbage from their homes and bill them directly rather than bill RISA.
- 4. I initially declined to do so for a number of reasons, including: (a) it would not be cost-effective for me to bill each resident rather than RISA on behalf of all residents; (b) my contract with RISA pays me a set rate for all Ryderwood residences; and (c) my contract with RISA restricted me from entering into separate agreements with residents.
- 5. Mr. Weaver and Mr. White threatened to file a complaint with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("WUTC"), the State agency that regulates my ability to collect garbage, if I refused to enter into private contracts with the resigning members.

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- 6. When I informed Mr. Weaver and Mr. White of the conflicts I had with the RISA contract, they advised me to renegotiate my deal with RISA and suggested revisions for my contract with RISA.7. I informed RISA of the issue I was having with the resigning members
- 7. I informed RISA of the issue I was having with the resigning members and the potential conflict with my contract. I did not use the terms suggested by Mr. Weaver and Mr. White but did ask RISA to remove the provision restricting my ability to bill residents individually. RISA agreed to do so but continued to pay me to collect garbage for all RISA residents.
- 8. As a result I currently bill a number of the Plaintiffs at the tariff rate established by the WUTC for Cowlitz County: \$6.70 per month to collect garbage once per week.
- 9. Most of the additional Plaintiffs have asked me to invoice them separately for garbage collection since that time, but not all. I was provided the names of all present Plaintiffs and cross-referenced those names against my billing records to verify whether all Plaintiffs pay separately or not. I have no records reflecting any individual billing demand from the following Plaintiff residents:
  - a. Ray and Carolyn Morris;
  - b. Barbara Pepper;
  - c. Charles Santineau; and
  - d. Donald Smith.
- 10. I am aware that Plaintiffs claim RISA directed me not to collect garbage from homes owned by Plaintiffs. This is false. RISA never instructed or requested that I refuse to collect garbage from any residence at any time.

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DECLARATION OF JEFF CUMMINS IN SUPPORT OF RISA'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

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I declare the foregoing to be true and accurate to the best of my knowledge under penalty of perjury.

**Jeff Cummins** 

Executed this 23day of July, 2013 at

Ryderwood, Washington

DECLARATION OF JEFF CUMMINS IN SUPPORT OF RISA'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION 630743.1/072313 1245/61840140

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